

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB BULLETIN

MAY 1978

REGISTERED at the G.P.O. Hobart, for transmission by post as a periodical, Category B.

MEETINGS are held at the Tasmanian Environment Centre, corner of Bathurst and Criterion Streets, at 7.45 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month except December

President: Mr. G. Van Munster, Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Berry.

Club's address: G.P.O. Box 68 A, Hobart, 7001.

AGENDA

MAY 18th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. A. Hewer, an authority on Tasmania's reptiles and amphibians, will talk about Tasmania's frogs (10 species?). Mr. Hewer will play recordings of our local frogs' calls while illustrating the musicians with his colour slides.

MAY 21st (Sunday) Outing: depart from the Prince's Theatre at 10.00a.m., under the leadership of Mr. R. Shepherd and Mr. J. Berry, to visit the Cunningham Regional Park. It is hoped that Club members who are interested in working on a fauna and flora survey of this Crown Land area will make a special effort to attend this outing.

JUNE 5th (Monday)

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5th JUNE

Meet outside the Prince's Theatre at 9.30 or at Granton Lagoon Reserve between 10.00-11.00a.m. Mr. K. Harris and Mr. J. Berry will be leading this rubbish collection outing. We will start by cleaning up the area in and around the Reserve. Members and friends should come prepared i.e. gloves, large plastic bags, rubbish bins, sacks etc. Don't forget your lunch. It is hoped that there will be some coverage by the media including either ABC TV or Channel 6.

- June 15th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. K. Aves will give us a talk on "a field naturalist around the Carlton area".
- JUNE 17th (Saturday) Outing: depart from the Prince's Theatre at 9.30a.m. Mr. K. Aves will lead this outing to the Carlton area.
- JULY 20th (Thursday) Speaker: Dr. Guiler will talk to us about Native Mammals. His talk will include information on mammal trapping and mammal survey work in Tasmania.
- JULY 22nd (Saturday) Outing: Mr. M. Hurburgh will lead an outing to the Botanical Gardens (on the Domain). Meet at 10.30a.m. outside the Prince's Theatre. This outing should finish about 3.00p.m.
- AUGUST 17th (Thursday) Members' Night. Would members interested in giving a 5 or 10 minute talk please contact the Secretary before the end of June.
- AUGUST 19th (Saturday) Outing: Mr. G. Van Munster will lead this outing to Brown Mountain. Depart from the Prince's Theatre at 10.00a.m.

NEW MEMBER

We are very pleased to welcome Mr. Euan Moore, of 5 Park Road, Lindisfarne, to the Club. Mr. Moore is very interested in botany and is planning to do an M.Sc. on Nothofagus gunnii, a deciduous tree which is a Tasmanian endemic and commonly known as Tanglefoot. Mr. Moore would like to hear from anyone who knows of precise localities for this species.

T.F.N.C. COMMITTEE FOR 1978-1979

The following officers were elected:

President: Mr. G. Van Munster;

Vice Presidents: Mr. M. Hurburgh & Mr. K. Harris;

Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Berry;

Assistant Sec.: Mrs. M. MacDonald;

Treasurer: Miss A. Tagg;

Committee Members: Mrs. M. Wall, Miss M. Westbrook, Mr. R. Shepherd and Mrs. Hoyle.

Mrs. MacDonald was re-elected to the position of Club Librarian, Mr. Shepherd was re-elected as Editor of the Tasmanian Naturalist and Miss R. Warren was accepted as Club auditor for the 1978-1979 accounts.

FEDERATION NEWS

Mr. K. Harris was recently elected to the position of President and Miss M. Westbrook was elected to the position of Secretary at the Federation of Field Naturalists' Clubs of Tasmania's Bi-Annual Meeting on 1st April, 1978. The two Vice Presidents elected were Mr. B. Dudman (Burnie F.N.C.) and Mrs. M. Cameron (Launceston F.N.C.).

BIRDS OF PREY

The National Parks and Wildlife is interested in collecting information on the biology of Tasmania's birds of prey.

A vital part of this work involves documenting the past and present breeding success of each species. The mapping of breeding sites is one of the best ways of establishing population size and fluctuation. Nigel Brothers, of the N.P.W.S. (Magnet Court), would be very pleased to hear from anyone who is willing and able to provide such information. Mr. Brothers is prepared to answer queries on the identification and biology of our birds of prey so don't hesitate to ask him for help.

Specially prepared bird of prey nest record cards are available from either Nigel Brothers or Mr. J. Berry (Hon. Sec. T.F.N.C.).

WILDERNESS AUSTRALIA

There will be a 4 day Symposium/Workshop concerned with the planning, management and uses of Australian Wilderness at the Canberra College of Advanced Education, 20-23 July, sponsored by the Royal Australian Institute of Parks and Recreation. Cost: \$110. For further information contact Mr. J. Berry.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CLUB LIBRARY

In addition to the usual periodicals the Club has received several issues of the Queen Victoria Museum Records: no. 55 "Miscellaneous notes on endemic

PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

Tasmanian plants in the genera Olearia, Ixodia, Xyris, Danthonia, Tetrarrhena " by D. I. Morris.

No. 56: "The Strigiphilus Cursitans Group (Phthiraptera Insecta)" by Theresa Clay.

No. 58: "The vertebrate fauna of Maggs Mountain Tasmania" by R.H. Green.

No. 59 "Pleistocene cave material of Tasmanian Native-hen Tribonyx mortierii and Sooty Shearwater Puffinus griseus in Tasmania" by G.F. Van Tets.

No. 60 "Pleistocene vertebrate remains from a cave near Montagu, N.W. Tasmania" by Peter Murray and Albert Goede.

WILDERNESS IN TASMANIA STUDY, 1978

A study of potential wilderness areas within Tasmania has commenced under the direction of Dr. R. Jones of the Centre for Environmental Studies of the University of Tasmania. This study is being carried out in close cooperation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service for the Australian Heritage Commission. The aim is to identify, describe, and nominate potential wilderness areas for the Register of the National Estate.

To date the study has completed a broad scale identification of potential wilderness areas in the state according to criteria set down by the Wilderness in Australia study of Eastern New South Wales and South-eastern Queensland. This report was compiled by the University of New England in 1976.

As the Tasmanian study is the second detailed study of wilderness within Australia and one which will undoubtedly cover unique and controversial areas, the study team is very interested in receiving views from all concerned individuals, conservation groups and other organisations.

The study team is anxious to receive the views of concerned individuals and organisations and would appreciate suggestions. It would be most useful if ideas reached the study team as soon as possible and no later than 30 June 1978. All correspondence should be addressed to: 'Wilderness in Tasmania', c/o Dr. Jones, Environmental Studies Centre, Box 252C, HOBART, 7001.

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